

## Data Analysis and Generalizations

## Summarizing

### STUDENT ACTIVITY

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The Rule-Based Strategy is a way for you to use some basic rules or steps to summarize information in a text. Use the following suggestions to make summaries of the student text. The following are the rules to follow using this strategy:

#### Rule-Based Strategy

- Delete trivial material that is unnecessary to understanding.
- Delete redundant material.
- Substitute superordinate terms for lists (e.g., “elements” for “silicon, aluminum, and gold”).
- Select a topic sentence. If none exists, create one.

1. Silently read the first paragraph of your student text. Write down a topic sentence that describes the essence of what you have read.
2. Rewrite a portion of the second paragraph, but eliminate any trivial or unnecessary information.
3. Rewrite a portion of this paragraph, this time replacing lists of terms with superordinate terms.
4. Rewrite a portion of this paragraph, this time using simpler terms.

5. Using the rewrites from the previous page, combine your sentences to make a complete summary. Re-read the two paragraphs to make sure that your summary represents the essence of the two paragraphs.

6. Repeat this process for the other assigned paragraph(s) in the text in the space below. Make a note of which rule you are applying as you summarize.

Rule:

Summary:

Rule:

Summary: